

WHAT HAPPENED

Great Benefactions of the
Baroness Burdett-Coutts.

FRIEND OF THE EMINENT
Patron of Distinguished Men in Professional Life.

GAVE AID TO THE DISTRESSED
Cleared Several Blocks of London
Slums—Sent Families to Canada
and Australia.

BY WILLIAM E. CURTIS.
Written for The Star and the Chicago Record-Herald.

A lady in Bloomsbury, Ill., asks why the late Baroness Burdett-Coutts was buried among the kings, queens, statesmen, archbishops, soldiers, authors and other eminent men in Westminster Abbey.

No one of the many famous people whose dust is deposited in that most noble of all pantheons was more entitled to the honor, for Angela Burdett, as she was born, was undoubtedly the greatest philanthropist that ever lived. No man being, no king, nor emperor, nor plutocrat, ever contributed so much money to the relief of the poor, or did more practical deeds of benevolence than she. She often acted under the influence of the great men of the last century—the Duke of Wellington, who wanted to marry her; Lord Shaftesbury, who was her ideal of a Christian statesman; Mr. Gladstone, who in the last century was one of her most intimate friends; Charles Dickens, who suggested many of her philanthropies; "Chinese" Gordon, Rev. Mr. Spurgeon and many others who might be named; but, as a rule, she was a woman of her own initiative and accepted all the moral responsibility of her benevolence. She was original in her methods and had great talent for organization and administration. If she had been a man she would have been prime minister of England. In politics she exercised a powerful influence for several generations and named many a cabinet minister. She was unique among the women of her time. She was the daughter of an emperor—Napoleon III—and refused offers of marriage from the Duke of A. male, son of King Louis Philippe, and from a long list of the noblest nobles in the British empire. She had many lovers, but gave them no encouragement.

Her Marriage.

In 1831, when she was sixty-seven years old, she married her private secretary, a young American named Bartlett, a native of Philadelphia, originally a clerk in the banking house of Coutts & Co., afterward her secretary and then her business manager. He was forty years; her junior, but she loved him and trusted him, and their life was congenial and happy. She gave him an allowance of \$200,000 a year, from which he had doubtless saved something, but her enormous fortune goes to her nephew, Francis Burdett Money-Coutts of Weybridge, a little town in Surrey about thirty miles from London. He is the son of her elder sister, Clara, who died at the age of ninety-four a few years ago, and the Rev. James D. Money, vicar of Weybridge. The heir is a member of the family, about fifty-four years old, and has several children. He lives quietly and is practically a recluse, but he has a small circle of friends and neighbors. He is the son of a peer of the realm and one of the richest men in the kingdom. He inherited the dukedom and the various titles belonging to his late aunt, but she preferred to live in the country, and Angela Burdett-Coutts, a third time conferred upon her by Queen Victoria because of her generosity to the sick and wounded in the various wars in which England was engaged and which expired with her.

Lady Money-Coutts and Lady Burdett-Coutts, the sisters, were friends. The former was the elder and never gave up her Angela for being the favorite of the Duchess of St. Albans, their step-grandmother, from whom the Money-Coutts family name came.

Old Tom Coutts.

It is a curious story. "Old Tom" Coutts was a famous banker, a man of great wealth and influence in the financial world, but a rough rooster, with a badly damaged reputation. He married a scullery maid named Elizabeth Starkey, and after her death, took for a second wife Harriet Seddon, a notable and charming actress. Elizabeth Starkey had a daughter named Sophia, who married Sir Francis Burdett, a person of considerable importance and authority, a professional politician, a member of parliament for the borough of Westminster, and the last person to be imprisoned for political reasons in the Tower of London. They had two children, Angela and William. "Old Tom" Coutts married the actress, his family refused to recognize her socially and treated her with contempt all except little Angela Burdett, who showed the traits of her father and was his favorite. She was a girl of her step-grandmother, and when she grew to girlhood, became her constant companion. "Old Tom" Coutts was so indignant at the treatment of his actress wife that when he died he left her his entire fortune. He made no provision for his children by his first wife or for any other relative. Harriet Seddon got it all. She had made him a good wife; she had settled down and become a good, unostentatious, popular woman, but her husband's family, who recognized her one child, never recognized her merits. After she had been a widow for three years, the ex-actress married the Duke of Albany, who died shortly afterward. When she followed him to the grave she bequeathed the bulk of her fortune to Coutts & Co. and all the money and property she had inherited from her husband to her little favorite, Angela Burdett, then twenty-three years old, upon the condition that she assume the name of Coutts. It was also provided that if she left no children the money should go to the next of kin of the Coutts family.

Friend of Many Great Men.

For a generation she was the greatest belle in London, for she had beauty and grace as well as wealth. She was considered the richest woman in the world, but never cared for society and gave her time to charitable work, to promoting the arts and sciences and to the improvement of the condition of her race. Her home for sixty years was the most important political and social center in England. She had confidential relations with nearly all the great statesmen and politicians of her time, and she was the intimate friend of more great men than any other woman that ever lived, but, unlike Madame de Stael and other famous women, she had no breath of scandal ever tarnished her name. She was the closest friend of Queen Victoria and had exercised a powerful influence over her. There were no eminent men of her generation in Europe whom she did not personally know, and she would have to confess that they owed their advancement very largely to her advice and influence. Her protégés have been great authors like Dickens, great scientists like "Chinese" Gordon. The last communication he received at Khartoum from the native Sudanese world before he was killed by a letter of encouragement and sympathy written by her hand carried to him by a that purpose. Mendelssohn, List and several other famous musicians were on her list of beneficiaries, which included actors and actresses, soldiers, clergymen, poets, novelists and other writers; painters and sculptors and a large number of successful business men, and all their life in life to her generosity and patronage.

Practical in Her Philanthropy.

She had no theories; she was intensely practical. She gave her aid and exercised her influence where she thought they were needed. But she managed her charities and disbursed her benefactions in a systematic and business-like way that commanded the confidence and respect of the public for her sincerity and common sense. Her

Blankets, 39c.
Special offering of Good Quality White Blankets, with neat colored borders; selling at 80c. pair. Not over 2 to a buyer at the sale price, pair, 39c.

Men's Shirts, 29c.
A lot of men's good and serviceable quality Soft Bosom Shirts; never sell regularly under 50c. to 75c.; a limited lot to go in the big sale at 29c.

Boys' Linen Collars, 2½c.
Boys' Finely Laundered "Buster" Linen Collars—a special offering for the big sale at 2½c. each or 25c. dozen.
Boys' Best All-linen Sailor Collars; splendidly laundered; sold always at \$1; Clean Sweep price..... 19c.

Men's Hose, 6½c.
50 doz. Men's Black Cotton Half Hose that never sell under 15c. pair; they are in the Clean Sweep Sale tomorrow at 6½c.

Women's Hose, 7½c.
75 dozen Women's Black Cotton Hose; the quality that everywhere sells for 12½c. pair; Clean Sweep Sale price, 7½c.

Women's Tailored Wear and Furs at Great Reductions.

FINE ALL-WOOL PANAMA DRESS
Skirts in black only; pleated with folds of match material; the value is positively \$3.98; for the Clean Sweep sale at..... **\$1.98**

SPLENDIDLY TAILORED SKIRTS.
In all-wool Panama, cheviot and mixtures; black and gray; new form; fitting pleated styles; box and side pleats; all \$5.98 value. Sale price..... **\$2.98**

TAFFETA SILK WAISTS IN
Colors and black; various handsome styles; both open front and open back; value \$7.98. Sale price..... **\$2.98**

PINEST WHITE JAP SILK WAISTS.
Beautifully trimmed with fine lace and some embroidered; short sleeves; the value of every waist in this lot is \$3.98. Sale price..... **\$1.98**

BROWN AND BLACK MARTEN
Fur Neck Scarfs, with large clusters of tails; smooth and fine quality; have always low heels; guaranteed worth \$12.98. To be closed out, each at..... **\$4.98**

ERMINETTE NECKPIECES IN
fancy shapes, with Muffs to match; low heels; guaranteed worth \$12.98. To be closed out, each at..... **\$4.98**

BOY'S AND BROWN MARTEN
Neckscarfs, with large cluster or bush tails; value \$6.98. Clean Sweep price..... **\$2.98**

Tumblers, 134c.
After 5 o'clock tomorrow evening we will sell 100 dozen 8-ounce Tumblers, in both the plain and imitation cut-glass designs—such as you'd pay 5c. each for anywhere—no over 12 to a buyer, and none delivered, at..... **134c.**

Shoes in the Great Sale.

WOMEN'S SUPERIOR QUALITY VERA
and Box Calf Blucher Lace Shoes; narrow toe; also patent and kid tips; low heels; guaranteed worth \$2.24. To be closed out, each at..... **\$2.24**

WOMEN'S PATENT COLT VICI
Button and Lace Shoes; all Bluchers; well soles; Cuban heels; many styles; sizes 2A to 2D; worth \$4.45. Sale price..... **\$2.59**

MEN'S \$2 AND \$4 PATENT
Colt, Box Calf and Vici Kid Lace Shoes; sizes 6 to 11..... **\$1.98**

Satin and Box Calf Shoes;
solid leather soles; sizes 13½ to 15; value \$2; sale price..... **\$1.49**

MISSIE'S CHILDREN'S
Women's Red and Black Pelt Slippers; all sizes, 6 to 2, at..... **39c.**

The Clean Sweep in Millinery

All the handsome examples of Imported and American Millinery that have sold at from \$15 to \$20, embracing Trimmed Hats in many exquisite effects, are all to go at..... **\$10.00**

Women's and Children's Beautiful Trimmed Hats in many patterns and kinds; one of a kind; sold regularly at \$10 to \$15. They are all in the sale at..... **\$5.98**

The matchless collection of Women's and Children's Trimmed Hats that are regularly sold at from \$5 to \$10, including many handsome shapes and styles. All now priced..... **\$2.98**

Sale Specials in Furnishings

Lot of Men's Shirts, in both soft and stiff bosoms; the kind that regularly sell at \$1; a Clean Sweep bargain at..... **49c.**

Men's Heavy Blue Denim Overalls without bibs; prevailing price is 89c.; Clean Sweep price..... **49c.**

Men's Suspenders, made of excellent quality elastic webbing; have been selling at 19c.; Clean Sweep price..... **10c.**

Women's Black and Fancy Colored Hose Supporters that regularly sell up to 25c.; Clean Sweep price..... **10c.**

Lot of Pretty Bead Necklaces that sell everywhere at 25c.; Clean Sweep sale price..... **10c.**

Lot of Fine Jeweled Back Combs that sell usually as high as \$1.25; Clean Sweep sale..... **25c.**

influence was not due to her money alone, although that gave her the means of carrying out her plans and intentions which would have been futile without it. But her intellectual ability, her character and her personal magnetism would have given her a commanding position without her money. Some day, I suppose, her biography will be published by Mr. Bartlett, Burdett-Coutts, her husband, and secretary and manager for more than a third of a century. Then the world will learn for the first time of many important acts in her life. But it is already aware that she expended millions of years after year for public and private charities without ostentation or announcement. She endowed several bishoprics in England, Canada, Australia and South Africa. She created nobility in Westminster, three other churches in different parts of London, another in Carlisle and several in India, Africa and Australia. She created nobility knows how many schools and established a large number of missions in different parts of the world. She cannot go to any tenement house district in London without finding chapels, school houses, hospitals, refuges, night shelters and other buildings that were erected by her from time to time during the last sixty years.

Other Important Benefactions.

She cleared several blocks of the foulest slums in London, the most notorious haunts of criminals, and covered them with model dwellings for honest working people. She

How Men's Suits and Overcoats Are Going.

Suits and Overcoats in all the grades up to very finest make up the Clean Sweep news in the men's clothing store. And the prices we have made for the great stock clearance actually put nearly half the price you'd usually pay into your own pocket. It has been a busy, bustling week in the men's department, and tomorrow should be one of the busiest days. Here's the way prices have been forced down—

Men's \$10 and \$12.50 Suits and Overcoats to \$6.75
be sold at.... **\$6.75**

Men's \$15 and \$17.50 Suits and Overcoats to \$9.75
sacrificed at... **\$9.75**

Men's \$20, \$22.50 and \$25 Suits and Overcoats to \$14.75
coats go at **\$14.75**

Young Men's Suits and Overcoats.

Young Men's Long Pants Suits; 20 in the lot; sizes 14, 15, 16, 18, 19 years; sell regularly at \$8.50 and \$10; Clean Sweep..... **\$4.75**

Young Men's Long Pants Suits, in the double-breasted style; 16 and 17 years only; worth \$19.98; Clean Sweep price..... **\$10.75**

All the Young Men's Overcoats that sell up to \$12.98 in the Clean Sweep at..... **\$7.75**

All the Young Men's Overcoats that sell regularly at \$17.50 to \$25; Clean Sweep price..... **\$12.75**

Grocery Prices Away Down

Finest Hams and Boneless Bacon..... 147c.
Evaporated Apples; 1-lb. cartons..... 77c.
Pillsbury's Best Flour; 24 lbs..... 69c.
Pears; Conqueror brand..... 77c.
Raspberry, Strawberry and Blackberry Preserves..... 47c.
Mixed Nuts; 2 pounds for..... 25c.
Babbitt's Best Soap; 7 for..... 25c.
Pure Lard; 5-lb. pails..... 59c.
25c. Onyx Coffee..... 19c.
Mustard in pint bottles..... 97c.
Vermont Maple-flavored Syrup..... 77c.
Baking Molasses; 2½-lb. tins..... 77c.
35c. St. Regis Coffee..... 29c.
Shaker Salt..... 77c.
Lemon and Ginger Snaps; pkg..... 27c.
Conserved Ginger; ¼-lb. fancy baskets..... 27c.
Best Pure Black Pepper; ¼-lb. box..... 57c.
Shriver's Corn and Peas..... 77c.

Good Hosiery at Nearly Half Price.

Men's Merino Half Hose, in gray and camel's hair; selling everywhere at 15c. pair; Clean Sweep Sale price..... **8c.**

Men's Black Cotton Hose, with white feet; have never sold under 15c.; Clean Sweep Sale price..... **10c.**

Women's Black Fleece-lined Hose, sold regularly at 15c. pair; in the Clean Sweep Clearance at..... **10c.**

Women's Black Gauze Lisle Hose, the sheerest hose made; sold at 19c. pair; Clean Sweep price..... **12½c.**

The Saturday Toilets.

SOZODONT FOR THE TEETH..... 14c.
DR. CHARLES FLEMING'S FRUIT FLAVOR TOILET SOAP..... 15c.
DANDERINE..... 15c.
LISTERINE..... 15c.
IMPORTED BAY RUM..... 15c.
PINAUD'S VEGETAL LILAC..... 40c.
THEATRICAL COLD CREAM, 4-LB. TINS..... 15c.
GASTMAN'S EXTRACT IN BULK, OZ..... 15c.
MENNEN'S VIOLET TALCUM POWDER..... 9c.
FINE IMPORTED TOOTH BRUSHES; SMALL LOT..... 5c.
30-MULE TEAM BORAX, 1-LB. PKG..... 9c.
CASTILE SOAP, 10c. BARS..... 5c.
IRVING'S BROWN'S ORIENTAL TOOTH PASTE..... 9c.
ROGER & GALLIE'S FINEST DE RIZ..... 12c.
COLGATE'S CASHMERE BOUQUET SOAP, SMALL..... 12c.
CASTILE SOAP, WITH TURKISH WASH CLOTH..... 8c.

Wonderful Bargains in Girls' Wear.

Children's White India Linen Dresses, prettily trimmed with embroidered yokes; sizes 1 to 3 years; worth 50c. Sale price..... **29c.**

Lot of 15 Girls' Coats, in velvet, moleskin and bearskin; red, brown, mode, green and black; sizes 2, 3 and 4 years; sold \$7.98 to \$12.00. Sale..... **\$4.98**

Infants' Long and Short Slips, made of soft and fine material. Clearance..... **19c.**

Don't Miss the Bargains in Boys' Wear.

ALL THE FINEST NORFOLK AND DOUBLE-breasted Suits; sell up to \$9.98; in the Big Sale at..... **\$5.00**

CHILDREN'S FINE NOVELTY OVERCOATS in best materials; sold up to \$10; Sale Price..... **\$4.98**

BOYS' FLY-FRONT MANNISH OVERCOATS; sizes up to 15 years; sell up to \$10; Sale Price..... **\$4.98**

ALL BOYS' DOUBLE-BREASTED AND NORFOLK Suits that regularly sell at \$5; Clean Sweep Sale..... **\$3.89**

CHILDREN'S NOVELTY OVERCOATS in broken sizes; selling at \$4.98 and \$5.98; Sale Price..... **\$2.98**

BOYS' FLY-FRONT MANNISH OVERCOATS; sizes up to 15 years; sell at \$4.98 and \$5.98..... **\$2.98**

BOYS' \$4 DOUBLE-BREASTED AND NORFOLK Suits; bloomer and straight pants; all to go at..... **\$2.89**

ALL BOYS' DOUBLE-BREASTED 2-piece Suits that sell regularly at \$3; for the Clean Sweep Sale..... **\$1.89**

CHILDREN'S RUSSIAN AND SAILOR BOOTS; sizes 2½ and 3 years; sold up to \$5..... **\$1.49**

CHILDREN'S NOVELTY OVERCOATS in odd sizes; all fine grades; sold up to \$3.98; Sale Price..... **\$1.49**

BOYS' \$8c. BLOOMER 89c. Boys' Heavy Percale Waists reduced to..... **1½c.**

Finest Wash Suits at Penny Prices.

Boys' Highest-grade Sailor Blouse Wash Suits; imperfect; would sell at \$2 usually..... **25c.**

Boys' Elegant \$3.50 Sailor Blouse Wash Suits; imperfect; in the Clean Sweep sale at..... **49c.**

Splendid Quality Sailor Blouse Wash Suits; all absolutely perfect; sold regularly at \$2..... **69c.**

Entire Stock of Hats in the Sale!

All Men's Soft Hats and Derbies that sell at \$1.50 and \$2 to go at..... **\$1.00**

Men's Fur Caps that sell at \$1 and \$1.50; Clean Sweep Sale price..... **75c.**

Boys' Telescope Hats that sell at \$1.25 to go at..... **75c.**

Children's Imitation Patent Leather Tams; selling at 50c..... **25c.**

Children's Fine Novelty Hats in velvet, plush and cloth..... **98c.**

Children's Knit Wool Toques that sell at 35c. to go at..... **18c.**

Boys' Wool Caps sold at 25c. and 39c.; sale price..... **15c.**

Four Big Sale Leaders in Underwear.

Women's Fleece-lined, Jersey-ribbed Undervests and Pants; extra good quality; Clean Sweep price..... **25c.**

Lot of Misses' Fleece-lined Gray Undervests that have always sold at 25c.; Clean Sweep price..... **15c.**

Men's Heavy Fleece-lined Undershirts and Drawers; shirts both single and double breasted; worth 59c.; Clean Sweep price..... **39c.**

Men's Outing Flannel Night Shirts that regularly sell up to \$1.25; a tremendous reduction in the sale to..... **49c.**

Improvements in Local Lighthouse District.

The lighthouse service officials here are arranging to establish several new lights in the waters of the fifth lighthouse district, on Chesapeake bay and its tributaries. They are in waters frequently visited by Washington vessel masters. The lights, which are as follows, will be in service about February 1:

Aaron shoal light will be established in six and a half feet of water on the south-east end of the shoal, making off from Day's Point, a little less than a mile south-west-half-west from White shoal light-house and on the northern side of the entrance of Pagan creek, southerly side of the James river. The light will be a fixed white post lantern, sixteen feet above the water on a red three-pile horizontal platform structure. Aaron shoal buoy No. 2, a second-class buoy, will be discontinued with the establishment of the light.

Gap shoal light will be established in six feet of water on the southern edge of Gap shoal, off Day's Point. It will be a 11th-order light, with a red flash every five seconds, visible from White shoal light. The light will be a fixed white post lantern, sixteen feet above the water, on a red three-pile horizontal platform structure. The light will be discontinued with the establishment of the light.

Under instructions of the board, its secretary, E. L. Dorsey, has sent out notice of the proposed action of the board to firm manufacturers of the lights and the materials to be used for marine fittings coming under the jurisdiction of the service, particular cast steel, cast and malleable iron.

Work of Supervising Inspectors.

The board of supervising inspectors of steam vessels, now in annual session at 72 13th street, will, the 30th instant, take up the question of the merits of the various metals to be used for marine fittings coming under the jurisdiction of the service, particular cast steel, cast and malleable iron.

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